(*b*) the amounts spent by Government in those years through the Panchayat, Public Health and Public Works Departments for the benefit and amenities of this particular village?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

		Rs.	*A.*	*P.*
(*a*) Year 1111	..	3,187—	10—	8
,, 1112	..	3,617—	15—	9
,, 1113	..	3,611—	1—	11
,, 1114	..	3,616—	1—	5
,, 1115	..	3,614—	6—	4

(*b*) Statistics of expenditure incurred by Government for the benefit and amenities of individual villages are not possible of being separately maintained.

LAND MORTGAGE BANK BONDS RECENTLY ISSUED— PARTICULARS REGARDING

260. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) how many applicants there were for the bonds recently issued by the Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank;

(*b*) what is the total amount for which the applications were received;

(*c*) was any preference shown towards any body or institution;

(*d*) was any effort made to get the rate of interest of the bond reduced?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) 244.

(*b*) Rs. 13,68,050.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) No.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know on what principle was the preference shown?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* They are all managed by Government or are under the control of Government, and the Board thought that some preference might be given to them.

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Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether money is not available at a cheaper rate of interest from the people in the State if this preference is not shown ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Money may be available at cheaper rates, but this interest has been fixed consistent with the rates prevailing under the Provincial and Government of India Loans.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Does it mean that even if money is available at cheaper rate Government are not inclined to float loans at a cheaper rate ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* That was a proposition that should be tried and seen. But this institution could not risk that.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether in view of the fact that many lakhs of rupees more than what is absolutely necessary have come into their hands, Government will hereafter think of reducing the rate of interest ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* They will always try to link their rate of interest with the similar rates obtaining in the market and in the provincial Government and Government of India loans.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* So, even if the rate of interest is going low Government will not be prepared to accept it ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* They will always do it consistent with the rates prevailing elsewhere.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Suppose, money is available at a lower rate here, and in British parts interest is high. May I know whether our Government will not be interested in lowering the rate of interest because the rate there is higher ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* These are all hypothetical questions on which nothing definite can be said.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* When the money that has come is 13 lakhs of rupees and when we wannted only 5 lakhs of rupees, there is a surplus of 8 and odd lakhs. If money is available at a cheaper rate, why did not the Government go in for that ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* This 13 lakhs of rupees came in probably because of the rate of interest quoted by us.

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Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Why should there be a preference shown? Just like any other person, Government societies or for that matter other societies need not be shown any preference.

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* These societies being Government managed or controlled institutions, the Board of Directors probably wanted some preference to be given to them.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* What is the extent of the amount of shares to which such preference has been shown?

Mr. President: We have not even given them any advice. We have actually nothing to do with them. It is absolutely done by the Board. Hon'ble members should not ask questions under presumption, that this preference to certain applicants was shown at the instance of Government. We have nothing to do with it.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What is the rate of interest?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Four per cent.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* The Defence of India Bonds are sold at 3 per cent.

Mr. President: The Defence of India Bonds are for a period of 6 years, whereas here it is for 20 years.

MALAYALAM SHORTHAND—INSTRUCTION IN SCHOOLS AND PERSONS QUALIFIED IN

261. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether Malayalam shorthand is taught in the commercial section of the G. T. School, Trichur, G. T. School, Ernakulam, or any of the Government High Schools;

(*b*) the number of persons in the Police Department who know Malayalam shorthand?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) No.

(*b*) 6.

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